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Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515-0605

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN AFFAIRS
RANKING MEMBER, SUBCOMMITTEE ON AFRICA
SUBCOMMITTEE ON GLOBAL HEALTH, GLOBAL HUMAN RIGHTS,
AND INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

HOUSE ARMED SERVICES COMMITTEE
SUBCOMMITTEE ON INTELLIGENCE AND SPECIAL OPERATIONS
SUBCOMMITTEE ON SEAPOWER AND PROJECTION FORCES

March 31, 2023

The Honorable Kay Granger
Chairwoman
House Committee on Appropriations
H-305, The Capitol
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Rosa DeLauro
Ranking Member
House Committee on Appropriations
1036 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Chairwoman Granger and Ranking Member DeLauro,

I am requesting funding for SDSU's Transmission Electron Microscope in Fiscal Year 2024. The entity to receive funding for this project is San Diego State University, located at 5500 Campanile Drive, San Diego, CA 92182. The funding would be used to allow scientists to observe details as small as individual atoms, giving unprecedented levels of structural information at the highest possible resolution. The microscope employs a high-resolution technique within a cold stage, "CryoEM," along with computers and powerful image-processing software to determine the 3D structures of small biological complexes. This has become the predominant tool for structural biology allowing atomic level determination of structure in a native frozen state for membrane protein, large protein complexes, and viruses.

The project is an appropriate use of taxpayer funds because San Diego State University is the only California State University institution in Southern California that offers a TEM inquiry-based course. These courses prepare students to fulfill the region's critical need for skilled laboratory scientists. The microscope will serve as a training and research tool, filling a void in the pipeline for high paying local electron microscope positions in the private and academic sectors.

The project has a Federal nexus because the funding provided is for purposes described in section 272 of title 15, United States Code.

I certify that I have no financial interest in this project, and neither does anyone in my immediate family.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Sara Jacobs".

Sara Jacobs
Member of Congress